

Engaging Moms Program (EMP): Serving “the best interests of the child” by Improving Maternal Functioning



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Engaging Moms Program

- **Goal**: Help Drug and Child Welfare Involved Mothers Succeed in Life: Recovery & Individual Functioning, Parenting, Family and Romantic Relationships
- **Not A Substance Abuse Treatment** ---But A Family-Based Intervention That Supports Treatment and Facilitates Recovery by Improving Family Relationships and Familial Role Functioning

Two Current Versions of EMP

Objectives:

- Enrolling and Retaining Mothers In Substance Abuse Treatment
- Helping Mothers Succeed in Dependency Drug Court

Core EMP Interventions

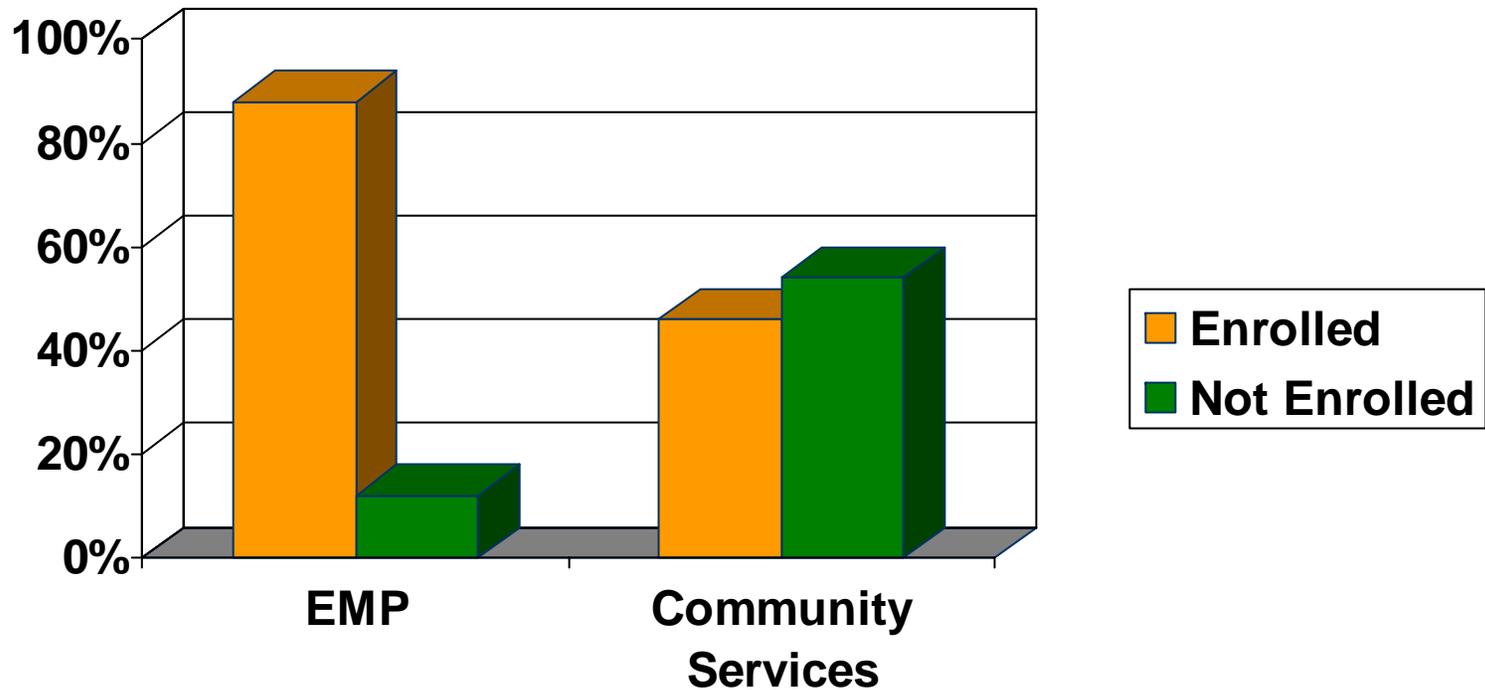
- Build & Strengthen Therapeutic Alliance: I Am On Your Side!
- Enhance Motivation to Change: Women & Children First
- Strengthen Emotional Attachment With Children
- Involve Family of Origin-Repair Relationships/Seek Support
- Improve Parenting Practices
- Examine & Improve Romantic Relationships
- Conduct Shuttle Diplomacy Between Mother & Service Providers/Courts/Child Welfare
- Deal With Relapses, Setback and Mistakes in a Therapeutic Manner (non punitive)
- Launch To Independent Life: Planning In Excruciating Detail/Prepare for Bumps in the Road

EMP: Substance Abuse Enrollment & Retention Version

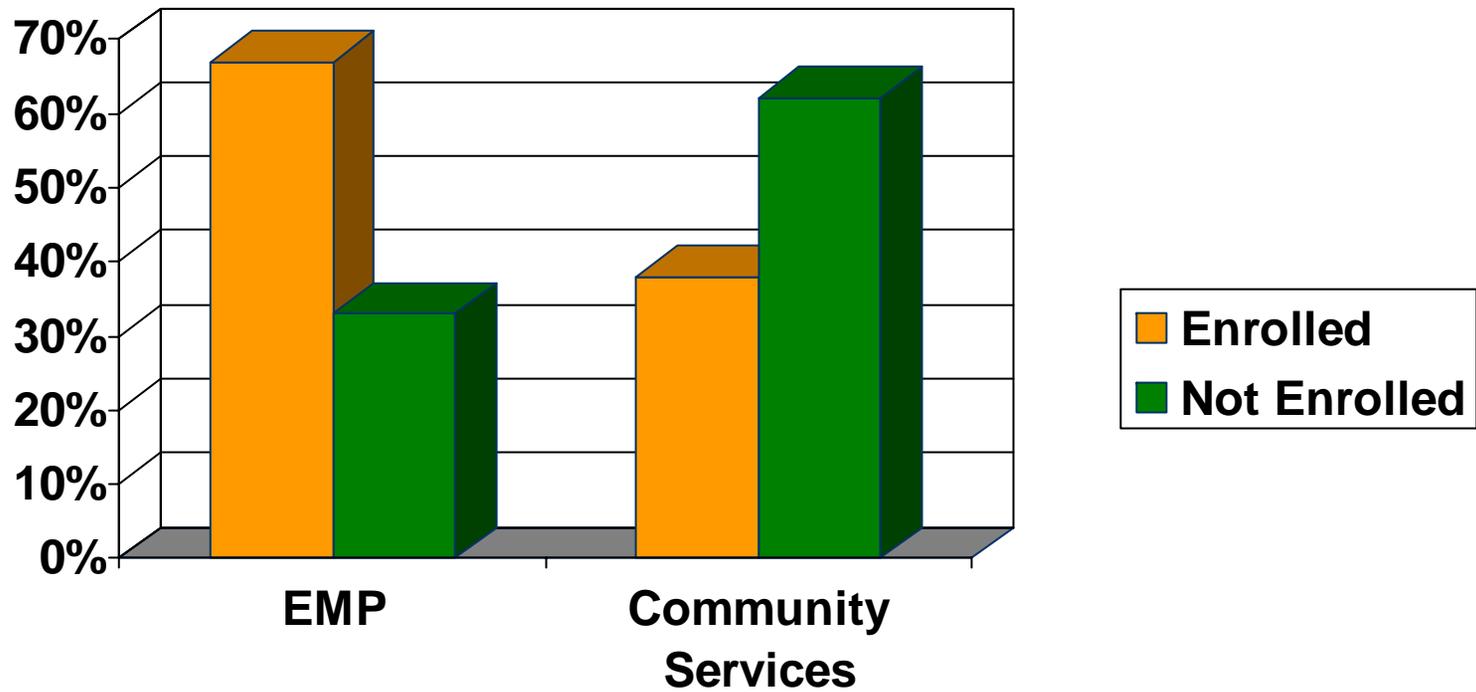
(Dakof, Quille, Tejada, Alberga, Bandstra & Szapocznik, Enrolling and Retaining Mothers of Substance-Exposed Infants in Drug Abuse Treatment. JCCP, 2003)

- NIDA-funded study
- 103 Black non-treatment seeking mothers of drug exposed infants
- Randomized to EMP or Community Service As Usual
- Therapeutic Goals: Enroll in Substance Abuse Treatment within 8 weeks, Retain in Treatment for at least 4 weeks

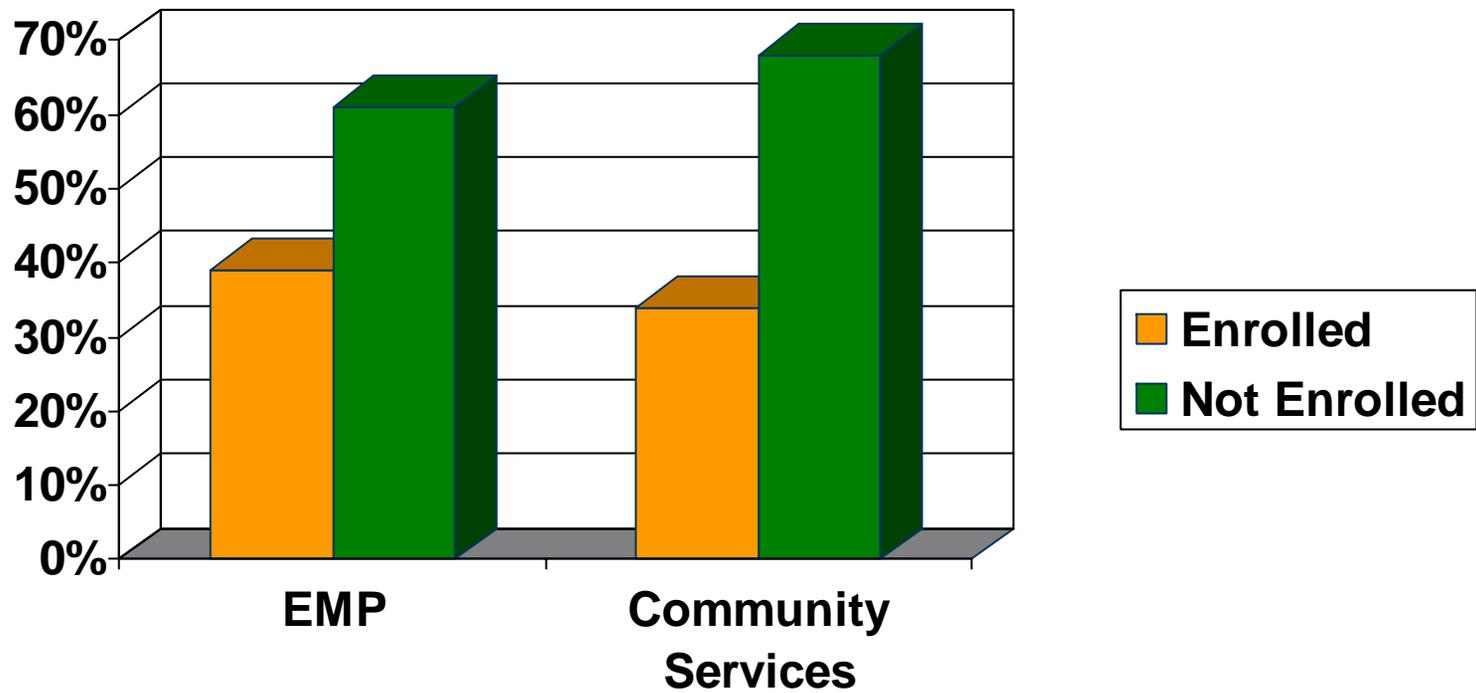
Enrollment In Substance Abuse Treatment



4 Week Retention



90+ Day Retention



EMP In Dependency Drug Court

- Develops Original EMP by:
 1. Expanding goal from enrollment & initial retention in treatment to longer term outcomes (recovery & reunification)
 2. Stay with Mothers In Increasingly Less Intensity Until Permanency (12 – 15 months)
 3. Goal Is To Help Mothers Succeed In Dependency Drug Court

EMP in Dependency Drug Court

Intervention Development Study (NIDA Funded)

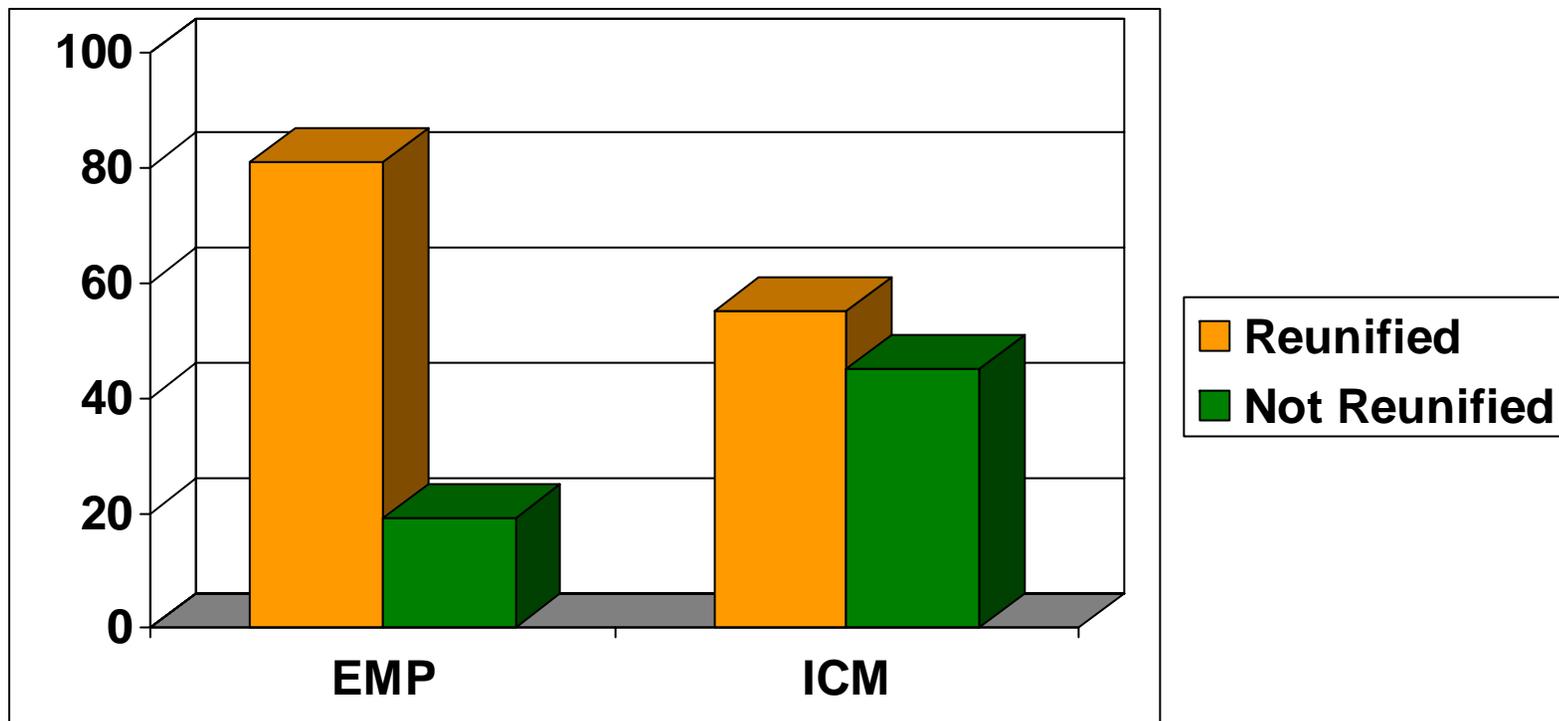
- Randomized Design: EMP vs. Intensive Case Management
- Sample Size = 65
- Data Collection at Intake; 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 months

EMP in Dependency Drug Court

Broad Range of Outcomes:

- Reunification
- Parenting Skills
- Substance Use
- Child Maltreatment
- Vocational/Educational
- Psychological Functioning
- Child Functioning

Permanency-Reunification: Preliminary Results (n = 36)



Can The Engaging Moms Program Be Adapted for Mothers Involved In Criminal Justice System?

Potential Opportunities to Implement: Identify Mothers & Recruit Into EMP

- At Time of Arrest
- Prior To Release From Jail
- Upon Release From Prison
- Probation
- Parole

Can The Engaging Moms Program Be Adapted for Mothers Involved In Criminal Justice System?

- What Is the Purpose:
 1. Engage & Retain in Substance Abuse Treatment & Other Services
 2. Help Succeed In Recovery & Improve Parenting Skills, Attachment To Children, Relationships with Parents & Partners/Fathers/Spouses